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Refer: Prof. A.J. van Rensburg.

18th November, 1971.

Professor Joshua Lederberg,
Department of Genetics,
Stanford University Medical Center,
Stanford,
California 94305,
U.S.A.

Dear Professor Lederberg,

Thank you for your kind letter of the 9th instant.

As you will notice I am no longer attached to the Bacterial Genetics Unit of Professor Jack Coetzee. I have also changed my field of research from Proteus to Pseudomonas, especially to research on R factors. I have done this to avoid duplication of work already undertaken by Professor Jack Coetzee.

Nevertheless, I will try to obtain the requested strains from Professor Coetzee and will then forward these to you. DNA loses its transforming activity so quickly, when stored that I have very little hope that active DNA will reach you while still in satisfactory state.

If we succeed in obtaining the strains, please keep me informed of your findings. As you will appreciate, the Proteus transformation system is very artificial and I have no great hopes that this will ever become an established procedure. I will appreciate to hear your views on this subject.

Yours sincerely,

Anton J. van Rensburg

Prof. Microbiology.

A.J. van Rensburg.

Van Rensburg, A.J.